

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PHNOM 08716 201155Z

51

ACTION OC-06

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ADP-00 PRS-01 CCO-00 SS-15 /034 W

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R 201110Z AUG 73

FM AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2666

C O N F I D E N T I A L PHNOM PENH 8716

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ACOM, OGEN, CB

SUBJECT: FACILITIES FOR MEDIA

REF: (A) STATE 162153 (C) TCH II 242.6

(B) STATE 163821 (D) TCH I 172.5

1. IN THE EVENT OF A 24-HOUR DISRUPTION OF COMMERCIAL
TELEGRAPHIC COMMUNICATIONS, THE EMBASSY IS PREPARED TO
TRANSMIT COPY FOR THE AMERICAN NEWS MEDIA ON THE
FOLLOWING SCHEDULE:

WIRE SERVICES

AP&UPI - 500 WORDS EACH IN THE MORNING, 500 WORDS EACH IN THE
AFTERNOON.

OTHER DAILY MEDIA

NY TIMES, WASH. POST, CHI. DAILY NEWS, CHI. TRIB, BALT. SUN,
LA TIMES, WESTINGHOUSE B.C. - 200 WORDS ONCE DAILY.

WEEKLY MEDIA

TIME AND NEWSWEEK - 500 WORDS PER WEEK.

2. TOTAL ADDITIONAL COPY ENVISAGED DAILY APPROXIMATELY
3,400 WORDS PLUS ADDITIONAL 1,000 FOR WEEKLY MEDIA
IF DISRUPTION CONTINUES.

3. ALL MEDIA COPY MUST BE CLEARED BY APPROPRIATE
GKR AUTHORITIES BEFORE TRANSMISSION. IT IS ALSO
UNDERSTOOD THAT OFFICIAL U.S. GOVERNMENT COMMUNICATIONS ENJOY
PRIORITY OVER MEDIA COPY.

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PAGE 02 PHNOM 08716 201155Z

4. EMBASSY COMMUNICATIONS PERSONNEL ARE CONCERNED THAT IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ABOVE SCHEDULE WOULD OVERBURDEN EXISTING OFFICIAL TRANSMISSIONS WHICH ALREADY ENTAIL OVERTIME FOR OPERATORS. THIS IS PARTICULARLY LIKELY TO BE THE CASE IN A PERIOD OF CRISIS.

5. SOLUTION, IT SEEMS TO US, IS TO MAKE AN EXCEPTION TO THE REQUIREMENT THAT MESSAGES BE HANDLED AS LOU, THEREBY ENABLING OUR LOCAL TELETYPE OPERATORS TO HANDLE THE TRAFFIC. SINCE ALL COPY IS TO BE CLEARED BY GKR BEFORE TRANSMISSION, RATIONALE FOR HANDLING AS LOW APPEARS TO BE SOMEWHAT WEAKENED IN THIS CASE. AS ALTERNATIVE YOU MIGHT AUTHORIZE US TO TRANSMIT MESSAGES AS LOU BUT PERMIT OUR LOCAL TELETYPE OPERATORS TO POKE THE MESSAGES IN LOU FORMAT. THEY HAVE NOT BEEN CLEARED TO HANDLE LOU MATERIAL AND RSO STATES IT WOULD BE VIRTUALLY IMPOSSIBLE, UNDER PREVAILING CONDITIONS, FOR FOM TO CONDUCT NECESSARY IN-DEPTH INVESTIGATIONS TO SO CERTIFY THEM.

6. PLEASE ADVISE URGENTLY PRECISELY HOW MESSAGES FOR MEDIA ARE TO BE FORWARDED AND ROUTED. REF C DOES NOT SPECIFY. SEEMS LIKELY WE SHOULD FOLLOW PROCEDURES OUTLINED IN REF D.

7. REQUEST AUTHORIZATION TO PROCEED AS ABOVE.
SWANK

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
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Draft Date: 20 AUG 1973
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: elyme
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
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Executive Order: GS SWANK
Errors: N/A
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Handling Restrictions: n/a
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ISecure: 1
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30 JUN 2005

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